

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A gaming machine comprising:
a video display device coupled to a main cabinet of the gaming machine;
a master gaming controller that controls one or more games played on the gaming machine and presents a game outcome presentation on said video display device;
at least one input device for selecting an entertainment content source; and
at least one output device configured to output entertainment content from the selected entertainment content source,

wherein one of the entertainment content sources is an electronic messaging service for allowing one or more of i) receiving via the gaming machine a first electronic message from a first person at a first gaming machine to a person at the gaming machine, ii) sending a second electronic message via the gaming machine to the first person at the first gaming machine from the person at the gaming machine or iii) combinations thereof.

[wherein the video display device is adapted for being split into a plurality of windows for allowing a simultaneous display of at least the game outcome presentation in a first window of the video display and video-formatted entertainment content in a second window of the video display device].

2. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the output device includes at least one of a sound projection device, a monitor, an LCD, a fluorescent display, a pair of headphones, or a head-mounted video display.

3. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content source includes at least one of a CD player, an FM/AM tuner, a VHS player, a DVD player, a TV tuner, a musical jukebox, a video jukebox, a computer, a server, or a media software application.

4. (Original) The gaming machine claim 3, wherein the media software application is selected from a group consisting of an audio player, an image viewer, a movie player or a web browser.

5. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the input device includes at least one of a key pad, a touch screen, a mouse, a joystick and input button and a track ball.

6. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content includes at least an advertisement, news, stock quotes, electronic mail, a web page, a message service, a locator service and a hotel/casino service, a movie, a musical selection or a broadcast event.

7. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the game includes at least a video slot game, a mechanical slot game, a pachinko game, a video poker game or a keno game.

8. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, further comprising a first communication interface wherein the first communication interface allows the gaming machine to communicate with an entertainment content source located outside of the gaming machine.

9. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 8, further comprising a firewall that limits access to the gaming machine via the first communication interface.

10. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content is initiated when a game play is initiated on the gaming machine.

11. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein access to the entertainment content is time dependent upon an indicia of credit amount, a wager amount, or a game playing history.

12. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content is provided according to a player information profile.

13. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, further comprising a second communication interface allowing the gaming machine to communicate with an output device located outside the gaming machine.

14. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the gaming machine is connected to an entertainment service network.

15. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content can be accessed on the gaming machine without requiring a game of chance to be played prior to accessing the entertainment content

16. (Previously Presented) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the entertainment content is displayed on the output device while the game outcome presentation is displayed on the video display device.

17. (Original)The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the input device is used to control a feature of the entertainment content.

18. Cancelled.

19. (Currently Amended) A method of providing entertainment content on a gaming machine with a video display device coupled to a main cabinet of the gaming machine for providing game outcome presentations for one or more games, the method comprising;
displaying a list of one or more entertainment content sources;
receiving a selection of the entertainment content source from said list;
outputting the entertainment content from the selected entertainment content source to at least one output device;

wherein one of the entertainment content sources is an electronic messaging service for allowing one or more of i) receiving via the gaming machine a first electronic message from a first person at a first gaming machine to a person at the gaming machine, ii) sending a second electronic message via the gaming machine to the first person at the first gaming machine from the person at the gaming machine or iii) combinations thereof.

[wherein the video display device is adapted for being split into a plurality of windows for allowing a simultaneous display of at least the game outcome presentation in a first window of the video display and visually formatted entertainment content output from the selected entertainment content source in a second window of the video display device.]

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:

prior to outputting the entertainment content, determining an indicia of credit amount for the selected entertainment content source;

displaying a message on the display device notifying a player of the determined indicia of credit amount for the selected entertainment content source; and

initiating the output of the selected entertainment content when the determined indicia of credit amount is available on the gaming machine.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 20, wherein the determined indicia of credit amount is independent of a wager on a game play on the gaming machine.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising
prior to receiving the selection,
receiving player tracking information; and
allowing access to the entertainment content sources based upon the player tracking information.

23. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
determining a total access time to the entertainment content source based upon player tracking information, a wager amount on a game or a indicia of credit amount deposited into the gaming machine;
comparing an access time to the entertainment source to the total access time; and
terminating access to the entertainment content source when the access time exceeds the total access time.

24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
prior to displaying the list of entertainment content sources,
loading information describing the entertainment content available on the entertainment content sources.

25. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
displaying entertainment content on the output device while displaying the game outcome presentation on a display device.

26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 25, wherein the output device is a first video display device and the display device is a second video display device.

27. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
receiving a second input signal to control a feature of the entertainment content source;
and
controlling said feature indicated in said second input signal.

28. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 19, wherein entertainment content at least include an advertisement, news, stock quotes, electronic mail, a web page, a message service, a locator service or a hotel/casino service, a movie, a musical selection and a broadcast event.

29. (Original) The gaming machine of claim 19, wherein the game is a video slot game, a mechanical slot game, a pachinko game, a video poker game or a keno game.

Claims 30–40 Cancelled.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
displaying a game outcome presentation for the one or more games wherein the entertainment content is provided during selected operational modes of the gaming machine.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
splitting the video display into a plurality of windows;
displaying a game outcome presentation in a first window and
displaying video-formatted entertainment content in a second window.

43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising:
providing one or more player predetermined conditions a player must satisfy to access entertainment content on the gaming machine; and
upon satisfying at least one of the predetermined conditions, outputting the entertainment content to an output device;
wherein the entertainment content can be accessed without requiring a game of chance to be played prior to accessing the entertainment content.

44. —48. Canceled.

49. (New) A gaming machine comprising:
a video display device coupled to a main cabinet of the gaming machine;
a master gaming controller that controls one or more games played on the gaming machine and presents a game outcome presentation on said video display device;
at least one input device for selecting an entertainment content source; and
at least one output device configured to output entertainment content from the selected entertainment content source,
wherein one of the entertainment content sources is a locator service for allowing a person at the gaming machine to locate via the gaming machine a first person at a first gaming machine.

50. (New) A gaming machine comprising:
a video display device coupled to a main cabinet of the gaming machine;
a master gaming controller that controls one or more games played on the gaming machine and presents a game outcome presentation on said video display device;
at least one input device for selecting an entertainment content source; and
at least one output device configured to output entertainment content from the selected entertainment content source,
wherein one of the entertainment content sources is a personal information service for allowing a person at the gaming machine to receive information that is of personal interest to the person wherein the information includes one or more of sports scores, news, e-mail or stock quotes.

51. (New) The gaming machine of claim 50, wherein the information that is of personal interest is a reminder of an upcoming event scheduled for the person.

52. (New) The gaming machine of claim 51, where the upcoming event is a dinner reservation.

53. (New) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the electronic messaging service is for allowing a service employee to send an electronic message to the person via the gaming machine.

54. (New) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the first electronic message and the second electronic message are processed by the gaming machine without using a player tracking system.

55. (New) The gaming machine of claim 1, wherein the first electronic message and the second electronic message include one or more of text, voice or combinations thereof.